advancement in technology. Board of Industrial and Financial Reconstruction has also declared the company as a sick unit.

(c) and (d) Government had sanctioned revival package of M/s ITI Limited during December, 2004 for providing financial assistance of Rs. 1024.77 crore towards:

Reimbursement/expenditure towards Voluntary Retirement Scheme	Rs. 558.00 crore
Payment of Provident Fund dues	Rs. 93.10 crore
Capital Expenditure	Rs. 150.00 crore
Equity Infusion	Rs. 200.00 crore
Waiver of interest/Penal interest on Government of India loan	Rs. 23.67 crore
Total:	Rs. 1024.77 crore

Faulty telephone exchanges

2126. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that telephone under Palampur-Panchrukhi Exchange remain out of order for months together despite complaints made even to senior officers;

(b) if so, the number of telephones remained out of order during the last six months with the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that many local officials of the Department do not pay any attention to this issue; and

(d) the details of telephone complaints received from Gander-Marera and Kotlu and Lambagaon areas during the last six months together with the steps taken to attend them with the reasons for the delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, telephones under Palampur and Panchrukhi Exchanges under Dharmshala Switching Secondary Area (SSA) of Himachal Pradesh telecom circle are usually working

satisfactorily. However, some telephones become non-functional sometimes due to cable theft, cable faults and long over head lines in hilly areas.

(b) Details of total faults reported, faults cleared and the reasons for the faults pending for more than 7 days in Palampur and Panchrukhi exchange areas during the last six months are given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) No, Sir. The local officials pay proper attention to the faults and problems of the subscribers.

(d) (i) Details of the telephone complaints received from Gander-Marera, Kotlu and Lambagraon areas during last six months are given below:

Sl. No.	Month	No. of telephone complaints received		
		Gandar-Marera Areas	Kotlu Areas	Lambagraon Areas
1.	February, 2006	20	31	89
2.	March, 2006	29	48	109
3.	April, 2006	16	26	93
4.	May, 2006	23	35	127
5.	June, 2006	27	58	105
6.	July, 2006	35	37	127

(ii) Reasons for delay in attending telephone complaints are as follows:

1. Clearance of the faults is slow due to hilly terrain, scattered areas, and harsh weather conditions particularly in rainy season.
2. There are frequent thefts of cables in some areas.
3. Long over head alignments which are provided for giving long distance connections, are prone to faults and thefts.

(iii) BSNL has taken several steps to reduce the fault rate and to attend to the telephone complaints promptly. Some of these are as follows:

1. Some Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) connections have been provided in theft prone areas wherever feasible.

2. There is a plan to divert telephones with long distance alignments on WLL in future, subject to feasibility.

3. Old paper core cables are being replaced by Jelly Filled (JF) cables.

Statement

Details of total faults reported, faults cleared and the reasons for the faults pending for more than 7 days in Palampur and Panchrukhi Exchanges

A. Details of Faults in Palampur Exchange:—

Sl. No.	Month	Total Faults Reported	Faults cleared within					Reasons for fault pending for more than 7 days
			3 Days	3-7 Days	8-15 Days	16-30 Days	Beyond 30 Days	
1.	February, 06	644	311	296	37	0	0	Cable theft,
2.	March, 06	681	323	315	43	0	0	underground
3.	April, 06	671	319	313	39	0	0	cable fault and
4.	May, 06	719	341	331	47	0	0	long O/H lines.
5.	June, 06	665	313	308	44	0	0	
6.	July, 06	810	422	325	63	0	0	

B. Details of Faults in Panchrukhi Exchange:—

Sl. No.	Month	Total Faults Reported	Faults cleared within					Reasons for fault pending for more than 7 Days
			3 Days	3-7 Days	8-15 Days	16-30 Days	Beyond 30 Days	
1.	February, 06	459	313	143	3	0	0	Cable theft,
2.	March, 06	488	356	128	4	0	0	underground
3.	April, 06	438	323	112	3	0	0	cable fault and
4.	May, 06	114	354	133	7	0	0	long O/H lines.
5.	June, 06	480	353	122	5	0	0	
6.	July, 06	504	363	134	7	0	0	